

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 44 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 11, 20, 21, 29, 34 and 40 have been amended. In view of the following remarks, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The present application was discussed at an applicant-initiated interview with the Examiner on April 11, 2006. Applicants thank the Examiner for agreeing to the interview, and the present amendments reflect the amendments discussed at the interview.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1 – 44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hahn, *et al.*, U. S. Patent No. 5,751,287 (“Hahn”). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1 – 19 and 29 – 44

Claims 1 – 19 and 29 – 44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hahn. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because Hahn does not disclose each and every limitation recited in independent claims 1, 11, 29, 34 and 40, as amended.

Specifically, Hahn does not teach either “an explorer configured to utilize a query to select items having one or more desired field entries from said data store” or an “explorer display schema [that] is stored as part of said explorer and includes one or more visual elements selected for display with items having said one or more desired field entries” as required by amended independent claim 1. Similarly, Hahn does not teach either “storing along with said explorer display schema a query for identifying items in the data store having said desired field entry” or displaying selected items with “one or more visual elements selected for display with

items having said one or more desired field entries,” as required by amended independent claims 11, 29, 34 and 40.

Hahn teaches a user interface that presents documents organized in terms of a file cabinet. The file cabinet is a metaphor for physical file drawers or file folders, and “[i]n response to the user selecting a particular file drawer image, the contents of the particular file drawer image are displayed to the user in much the same way the contents of a physical file drawer are displayed when opened.” Hahn, col. 4, ll. 38- 41. Because many users are familiar with the organization of filing cabinets, the interface of Hahn purports to be an improvement over other document management interfaces.

Hahn teaches multiple techniques for assigning a document to a file folder. The user may manually assign a document to a folder and may move documents between folders using conventional drag-and-drop techniques. Hahn, col. 10, ll. 45- 51 and col. 11, ll. 13- 15. Hahn also includes an autofiling feature that provides a list of suggested destination file folders for a document. Hahn, col. 10, ll. 51- 53. From this list, the user must assign the document to a folder.

Importantly, Hahn does not teach querying a data store to associate a document with a file folder. Hahn assigns documents to folders based on user selection-- not based on query results. In fact, the only querying/searching capability taught by Hahn involves simple text searching, and this text searching is not used to assign documents to folders. Hahn, col. 13, ll. 54- 61; FIG. 20B. Hahn does not teach querying specific fields for a desired entry and does not display items with visual elements selected based on field entries. Indeed, Hahn merely displays files that have been assigned to a folder, and this display does not involve any query-dependent visual element.

In contrast, independent claim 1, as amended, requires “an explorer configured to utilize a query to select items having one or more desired field entries.” Similarly, independent claims 11, 29, 34 and 40, as amended, recite “storing along with said explorer display schema a query for identifying items in the data store having said desired field entry.” Hahn does not teach these elements-- Hahn does not select items “having one or more desired field entries” by utilizing a stored query.

Hahn also does not teach displaying selected items with a display schema that “includes one or more visual elements selected for display with items having said one or more desired field entries,” as required by amended independent claims 1, 11, 29, 34 and 40. The interface of Hahn displays items in a view associated with a file folder, not with visual elements selected for display with items having desired field entries.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that independent claims 1, 11, 29, 34 and 40 are in condition for allowance. Furthermore, Applicants submit that dependent claims 2 - 10, which depend from claim 1, are in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1. Applicants also submit that dependent claims 12 - 19, which depend from claim 11, are in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to claim 11. Applicants submit that dependent claims 30 - 33, which depend from claim 29, are in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to claim 29. Applicants submit that dependent claims 35 - 39, which depend from claim 34, are in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to claim 34. Finally, Applicants submit that dependent claims 41 - 44, which depend from claim 40, are in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to claim 40.

Claims 20- 28

Claims 20- 28 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hahn. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection because Hahn does not disclose each and every limitation recited in independent claims 20 and 21, as amended. Specifically, Hahn does not teach “a query storage component configured to store a query” that “indicates a desired field entry,” as required by amended independent claims 20 and 21. Further, Hahn does not teach “an explorer display schema that includes one or more visual elements selected for display with items having said desired field entry,” as required by amended independent claims 20 and 21.

Hahn has been previously discussed. Hahn teaches a user interface that presents documents organized in terms of a file cabinet. Hahn does not teach assigning documents to file folders by querying a data store. Indeed, Hahn does not store any queries as part of its interface. The only search capability taught by Hahn is mere text searching. Hahn teaches reading documents with optical character recognition (OCR) software, and using the read-in text to “search for a term found in the document.” Hahn, col. 13, col. 54- 61; *see* Hahn, col. 13, col. 35- 39 and FIG. 20B. So the searching capability taught by Hahn involves simple text searching, not the searching of fields for a desired entry.

In contrast, independent claims 20 and 21, as amended, require “a query storage component configured to store a query.” Using this stored query, the claims require a “search engine” or “item selection module” that selects items having “a desired field entry.” Hahn does not store queries, and Hahn does not teaching executing a query to search fields for a desired entry. Also, Hahn does not teach “an explorer display schema that includes one or more visual elements selected for display with items having said desired field entry,” as required by amended


independent claims 20 and 21. The query results of Hahn are returned in a consistent interface that does not include query-dependent visual elements..

Accordingly, Applicants submit that independent claims 20 and 21 are in condition for allowance. Furthermore, Applicants submit that dependent claims 22 - 28, which depend from claim 21, are in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons discussed above with respect to claim 21.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, claims 1 – 44 are in condition for allowance. If any issues remain which would prevent issuance of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned prior to issuing a subsequent action. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional amount required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-2112.

Respectfully submitted,



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